



On Aruba:

Implementation Of UNESCO Treaty On Cultural Heritage

ORANJESTAD - In 2012, the Kingdom of The Netherlands ratified the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. The Convention is about oral traditions and expressions, including language as a vehicle of the intangible cultural heritage, performing arts, social practices, rituals and

festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe and traditional craftsmanship. It entered into force in the Kingdom of the Netherlands in August 2012. The Aruban government put the Fundacion Herencia Cultural Inmaterial in charge of the implementation of the convention in Aruba. The foundation

started its preparatory activities mid 2013. Last year the minister of Culture, Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar, received a report from a special committee on the implementation of the UNESCO-treaty to protect Intangible cultural heritage on Aruba. A symposium on Intangible Cultural Heritage was organized in April for all the Dutch Ca-



Herencia Cultural Inmaterial
Inventario Nacional Aruba



ribbean islands. The report offers advice on protecting this heritage. Aruba is the first country in the Kingdom wanting to protect its Intangible cultural heritage through an international treaty.

The report led to the founding of Fundacion Herencia Cultural Inmaterial. On the board are Luc Alofs (president), Jimmy Oduber, Eric Mijts, Igmar Reyes y Minerva Geerman, Jontsje Tilma, Bernice Schulten and the coordinator is Gina Jie Sam Foek. The advisory board members are Ray Anne

Hernandez, Vilmio Wester, Ami Henriquez-Mendez, Gregory Richardson, Merl Gibbs and last but not least Maybelline Arends-Croes. Mrs. Ineke Strouken is the advisor from the Netherlands Centrum voor Volks-cultuur en Immaterieel Erfgoed.

The coordinator can be contacted on information about nomination for the national inventory at the national library of Aruba, phone 582 1580. The implementation of the Unesco treaty on Aruba can now begin. □